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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with George Murphy, Joint Committee
on Atomic Energy Staff, Re Sharing of U.S. Information
on Gaseous Diffusion Technology

1. At his request, I met with George Murphy today and he told me of recent testimony before the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy having to do with U.S. sharing of its gaseous diffusion technology to foreign countries. Murphy wanted to call to my attention the fact that Executive Branch witnesses had indicated to the Committee that CIA had been a party to decisions contained in a recent study which recommends that the U.S. share its gaseous diffusion technology with foreign governments in accordance with the terms of agreements for cooperation with the governments of those countries for the sharing of atomic energy information.

2. The thrust of the testimony given the Joint Committee was that pursuant to an NSC Directive, the Executive Branch has recently concluded a seven or eight month study on the sharing of its gaseous diffusion technology with foreign countries. In response to questions from Joint Committee members and staff, witnesses indicated that enthusiasm was shown on the part of all agencies (State, AEC and CIA) for the sharing of this information. The witnesses indicated that obviously CIA and the intelligence community had gone into the "security problem" involved and a judgment had been made that the problem was "bearable."

3. Mr. Murphy has been a strong critic of any sharing of U.S. technology. We have emphasized to him on numerous occasions the role which Agency participants on various executive boards play, i.e. that of intelligence advisor and he feels that we have been implicated once again in substantive determinations which have been made. He has asked

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that I inform him as to the extent of Agency participation in the study and in the conclusions which it has reached. The Committee requested a copy of the study from State Department witnesses and was advised that this was a document prepared for the Administration and indicated the request would have to be directed to the White House.

4. Mr. Murphy also expressed concern over statements which have been made by in meetings with Soviet scientists in which he has given suggestions as to how the Soviet Union should proceed in its efforts to get the necessary approvals for the release of restrictions on the sale of sophisticated computers to the Soviets.

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5. I left with Mr. Murphy a copy of the Agency publication entitled "COCOM Countries' Sales of Technology to the USSR and Eastern Europe" in response to a request which he had made earlier and expressed our concern that the appropriate security limitations pertaining to its use be observed.

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Acting Legislative Counsel

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